



State Senator Donald DeFronzo

LEGISLATION FOR SENIORS



Saving Seniors Health Care Dollars

In 2009, the legislature created the new ConnPACE Plus program, which will result in significant health-care savings for seniors. ConnPACE is a state-funded program that pays some of the cost of medications for low and moderate-income seniors. The new voluntary ConnPACE Plus program should help seniors eligible for ConnPACE save \$1,000 per year or more in Medicare Part A and B premiums and lower co-payments. ConnPACE Plus is funded by the State of Connecticut and the federal government.

For more information, please call:

1-800-423-5026 or 860-269-2029 or visit
<http://www.connpace.com/income.htm>

Nursing Home Admission Equity

Seniors seeking admission to nursing homes shouldn't have to worry that they might be rejected because another applicant was a higher bidder—admission should be based on the medical needs of the patient. This year the legislature passed a bill requiring admission equity into nursing homes. The bill specifically prohibits any facility from requiring, soliciting, accepting, or receiving anything deemed an enticement or condition for admission. Likewise, nothing can be exchanged for accelerated admission or an extended stay.

Defending Vital Senior Programs

Throughout these difficult budget negotiations the legislature has continually defended important senior programs. First among these is a \$5 million matching grant program to maintain Dial-a-Ride in 142 municipalities. In addition the legislature has resisted attempts to decrease Medicaid reimbursements to nursing homes and has refused to concede negative changes to the ConnPace program.

For Dial-a-Ride services in New Britain, please contact The New Britain Senior Center at (860) 826-3553



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